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1645

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Robert HALLOWITZ *et al.*

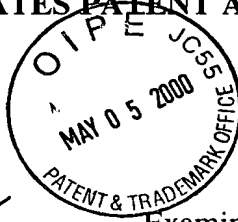
Serial No.: 09/296,534

Examiner: R. Zeman

Filed: April 22, 1999

Group Art Unit: 1645

For: METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS FOR DETERMINING LATENT
VIRAL LOAD



#6a 5/15/00
T. Gray

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed February 25, 2000 (Paper No. 5), please
amend the above-identified application as follows and consider the following remarks:

In the Specification:

Amend the specification as follows:

- Page 17, line 7: Change "was" to --is--.
line 12: Change "were" to --are--.
line 13: Change "were" to --are--.
line 14: Change "were" to --are--.

In the Claims:

Amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A method of determining the latent viral load in a host infected with
HIV comprising,
[treating] ~~contacting~~ resting lymphoid mononuclear cells obtained from the host with
an effective amount of an agent [capable of activating] ~~which activates~~ an HIV virus
integrated into the genome of the cells; and